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## THE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN STARTS

Functions of Chamber of Commerce Are Being Explained to the Public.

## MEETINGS ARE TO BE HELD

Lee H. Bierce Will Speak Friday Evening and Col. Gansser on Tuesday.

With the educational work of the Alma Chamber of Commerce well under way, with the opening of the campaign, which started Monday, things are being rushed, and there is every evidence that before the campaign has been brought to a conclusion that Alma will have one of the liveliest little organizations to be found in any city of the size in the state.

The educational work started with the circularization of the city on Monday. Tuesday afternoon a meeting of the pastors of the various churches of the city was held to plan for a civic Sunday, to aid in boosting along the campaign. Pledge cards were sent out through the high school. Questionnaires were distributed to the school students, asking what in their opinion was the greatest need of the city.

Invitations are now going out for the next chapter of the educational work which comes Friday. That evening a civic conference will be held in the high school auditorium, which will be open to everyone who cares to attend. The meeting will be held at 8:00 o'clock. Following a short musical program, with Lee H. Bierce, secretary-manager of the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, as the principal speaker, discussions of the functions of a chamber of commerce, will be held. The meeting is expected to be highly interesting and the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce, urges everyone to attend.

On Tuesday of next week there will be another big day. This will be Farmers' day, when problems of the farmer, as they relate to the city will be taken up. Members of the newly organized Gratiot County Farm Bureau, have been invited to be present, through the president of the organization, and it is expected that many things of value both to the farmers and to the city will come in for some good discussions at the meeting. Col. A. H. Gansser of Bay City, and John L. Gibson of Battle Creek will be the speakers. Mr. Gibson knows the farmers problems through 26 years spent with the North East Michigan Development Bureau. Col. Gansser is also scheduled to speak to the high school students in the afternoon on civic patriotism.

Numerous matters of importance concerning a chamber of commerce and its workings will be made plain to local people before the campaign is brought to a conclusion, as every effort is being banded to bring experts in various chambers of commerce activities to Alma during the three weeks of the drive. Among these speakers will be Floyd (Continued on page eight)

## RESTRAIN CONCERNS

Alma and St. Louis Factories Are Affected by the Order.

Judge Howard Wiest in circuit court granted an order Wednesday restraining the St. Louis and Alma Sugar companies from dumping refuse into the Pine river, on plea of the state fish and game and health departments that the 9,000,000 gallons of sewage entering the stream daily from the two plants has polluted the river and has been indirectly responsible for the killing of thousands of fish in the stream. The court order is returnable on November 26.

The results of tests made by chemists attached to the fish and game department showed, it is claimed, that the water below the plants was so filled with sewage that the decomposition process absorbed all the river's oxygen, resulting in smothering the fish. Tons of dead fish were recently taken from the stream and the commission declares that those portions of the stream are now devoid of fish.

It is said that the Pine river is not the only one in the state affected in such a way but that conditions are similar near Mt. Pleasant, Vassar, Port Huron, Saginaw and Monroe. Wherever the sugar companies operate, it is said, the same procedure is followed, water from the river being taken in above the plants to wash the beets and the enormous amount of waste being dumped into the streams below.—State Journal, November 19.

## THE NEAR EAST

A film depicting the sufferings of the children in the Near East will be shown in the Methodist church on Tuesday evening, November 30, at 8 o'clock. A speaker will be present to explain the pictures and point out the great needs of these sufferers. It is expected that an organization will be completed to secure monetary help.

## IS NOW HISTORY

Gratiot Club Being Liquidated By The Directors.

The Gratiot Club, formed here about three years ago under the auspicious circumstances, and which seemingly had a brilliant future before it, is now becoming only a memory, the directors recently having voted to close up the affairs of the club and liquidate it.

Since that time the furniture of the club has been sold to the local lodge of Elks, and now the directors are seeking to dispose of the building, at the corner of Woodworth avenue and East Center street, and hope that the business affairs of the organization may be entirely closed out within the next thirty days.

When the club was first organized there was every evidence that it would have a brilliant future, and during the first year or so of the life of the organization well known public men were brought here at various times to speak before the membership. Among these speakers were Governor Albert E. Sleeper, Congressman Joseph W. Fordney, State Highway Commissioner Rogers, and others.

Of late months there has been a noticeable lack of interest in the club for certain reasons, and it was decided best to wind up its affairs and close it up.

## NEARLY SEVENTY ARE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

Many Gratiot Boys Will Attend the State "Y" Conference at Grand Rapids.

The Older Boys' Conference held the latter part of the week at Grand Rapids under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. is a great attraction, with one of the strongest programs ever held in Michigan as the feature.

Speakers of international fame, such as Lyons, Harold Hough, A. G. Kuebel, E. T. Colton, Carl Johnson, Tad Wieman, V. O. Nelson, the latter three M. men from the University of Michigan will give addresses. Special musical talent will be present, among which will be the Fisk University Quartette. One of the largest athletic programs ever held in Michigan will be put on Saturday afternoon.

Gratiot County will be represented by the largest delegation in its history. Sixty-three men and boys have registered, and will leave on special train Friday morning on the Pere Marquette. This train will follow the first west-bound train into Grand Rapids.

Delegation meetings will be held in each town that will be represented at the conference.

Gratiot will be represented as follows:

—Thacker—Bernard Nalder, Victor Sawyer, Nile Jessup, R. C. Lake, Delbert Shirley, Rodney Lake, Harold McMullen, Wilbur Hubbard.

North Star—Graders, Alfred W. Lamsky, delegates, Gale P. Bangs, Theodore C. Grandell.

St. Louis—Delegates, Edward D. Bakers, delegates, Arthur Adams, Vesper C. Perrigo, E. Bigsby, Romaine Vliet, Chester Cave, D. O. Keon, Francis Clegg, Kenneth B. Weeks, Robert Wilson, Dee Hurst, Clement Yinger, Howard Dresbeck.

Breakenridge—Delegates, H. Blair DuVal, delegates, Fred Ponderer, Don Oakes, Clifford Wilkinson, Elwyn McCall, Sherman Edgar, Otto E. Mahoney, Lloyd Seltzer, Cecil Westall, Elton Clark, Harold Shepherd, Howard Barton, Lewis Eastlick, Robert Crawford, Carson Scoggins, Watson Crawford.

Alma—Delegates, M. W. Duffey, Ralph VanHosen, D. D. Yoder, L. A. Murdick, J. C. Fall, delegates, L. Marzoff, William Creaser, D. V. Shofly, Earl Leitchy, Howard Rittenberger, Kenneth Manwaring, Bradley Sartor, Victor L. Douglas, Donald Grover, Clair Perry, Leo Emmons, Leo C. Handley, Floyd Wine, Lee Lyons, George Smith, Karl Smith, Dee Wing, Perry De Yarmond.

## MARRIED RECENTLY

A very pretty home wedding took place on November 10 at 7:30 in the evening when Miss Bernice Sweet was united in marriage to Mr. Orlo Koehler in the presence of the immediate family and a few friends. The home was prettily decorated in pink and white. The bride wore a brown traveling suit and carried a shower bouquet of pink roses. She was attended by her sister, Miss Mildred Sweet, while Lawrence Mordred acted as best man. Miss Ferris played "Oh Promise Me" during the ceremony after which light refreshments were served. The bride and groom left immediately for Saginaw and after a short trip they expect to make their home in Akron, Ohio, in which city Mr. Koehler holds a fine position in the purchasing department of the Good Year Rubber Co.

Mrs. Koehler, a graduate of the Alma public schools, has been a teacher for some months in the Hillcrest school and has long resided here. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Sweet. The best wishes of their friends go with them to their new home.

The Arcada Ladies' Aid Society will meet at the home of Mrs. Bird Clark on Thursday, December 2, for an all day meeting.

## ALMA LOVES THIS CHARMING SCENE



The above view of another of Alma's charming beauty spots, is taken from the front of the so-called "Union Depot," and shows a portion of the magnificent platform there constructed by the two railroads which serve this city, at the time that the depot was increased from cigar-box size to a size that would compare very favorably with a large dry-goods container.

This platform is a nice place. It is used at times as a place for storing express that is being shipped in and being shipped out. It is used as a resting place for cream cans, full and empty, some of which at times are said to be so strong, as to need no resting place, as things of such strength are not in need of such rest. It is used at times to haul hundreds of crates of chickens over,

usually coming into Alma, the wind, when they are being unloaded, carrying the refuse from the crates, over the platform. Again it is used at times as a receptacle for waste paper, as the photo, indicates, because pieces of paper can clearly be seen in the photo at various places on the platform.

At times of course the platform is used by those who happen to be waiting for trains, this being at times when there is such a jam in the depot that they are almost literally forced out of doors no matter what the weather may be, or as has happened at times, they have enjoyed the dirt of the platform much better than the odors that have greeted people in the clean wholesome interior of the depot.

Think not that this picture was

taken when the platform was at its worst. If that had been the case, dear reader, there would have been a pile of cream cans in the foreground, one tipped over, with sour cream endeavoring to seep down between the bricks to the ground below, there to give off an offensive smell for days. Rather is it a picture taken when conditions were favorable, even to the background, across the tracks, which by the way is not railroad property. The dingy lunch room in the foreground is simply one of several charming styles of architecture that can be found in Alma.

Need a real Chamber of Commerce to look after such things? You want to get rid of them don't you?

## MT. PLEASANT IS THE VICTOR

Goal Kick Is Margin in Hard Fought Game Between Ancient Rivals.

## ALMA WAS NOT OUTPLAYED

Break of Luck Coming on Fumbled Punt Made Visitors Score Possible.

In a hard fought game, that was one of the cleanest battles that has been seen here in months, the Mt. Pleasant High gridder's nosed out the Mullin coached eleven Friday by a score of 7 to 0, the failure of the Orange and Black team to get their goal kick, following the touchdown being the margin of the defeat.

While defeated technically, the team virtually tied the Mt. Pleasant aggregation, each having a touchdown, but this does not show clearly the work of the Alma team, which gained almost twice the ground that the visitors were able to make. Except for the first quarter the visitors were unable to gain consistently, and were forced to resort to punting time and again to keep the local aggregation away from the goal.

At the start of the game Alma received and punted to Mt. Pleasant. The visitors were forced to punt. Alma fumbled the kick and Mt. Pleasant recovered the ball. A first down placed the ball within inches of the goal line, but for four downs the Alma line held like a stone wall, and not an inch could the visitors gain, such was the fight that Alma put up. It was Alma's ball. Stearns punted to Mt. Pleasant on the Alma thirty. The visitors tore back to the ten yard line, where they were again held for downs. Stearns again kicked, the kick being short and high to avoid being blocked, and it became Mt. Pleasant's on the twenty. The visitors got a first down three yards from the goal. Another hot battle was staged as the Alma came stacked up the visitors for three downs, but on the fourth Brown, on a delayed off tackle smash, went over the goal. Willes kicked goal. Score Mt. Pleasant 7, Alma 0.

Alma came back fighting furiously to knot up the count, if possible. The team was almost in midfield, when the quarter ended. Then Stearns cut loose a long forward pass to B. Sartor, who was down on the visitors ten yard line. Alma failed to gain for two downs, and then Elias on a delayed smash, went through the entire Mt. Pleasant team to the goal. The water and mud soaked ball, was hard to kick, and Stearns failed by about a foot to put it over the bar. Scoring was over for the day.

During the balance of this half, and throughout the second half Alma was constantly on the offensive. Mt. Pleasant being forced to punt all continuously, when she got the ball, as she was able to make first downs but seldom. Time and again the locals started a slashing attack for the visitors goal, losing the ball on downs by inches on several occasions.

Finally just before time was called

Stearns cut loose with a series of forward passes in the attempt to break down the visitors goal defense, but although one or two passes were completed, Alma could not break down the defense, that Mt. Pleasant showed at that stage of the game.

Captain Willes and Brown featured the game for the visitors, while Elias, Wallace and Stearns featured for the Alma team.

## MILLER IS HONORED

Merritt B. Miller of this city recently received a high honor at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., when he was selected for membership in Tau Beta Pi, the highest honorary engineering fraternity on the Purdue campus. Each year the highest scholastic men in each different school of engineering are selected for membership on the basis of their university rating and their activity in student affairs. Miller is a senior in the electrical engineering school.

## ARRESTED IN DETROIT

H. A. Smith was arrested in Detroit Tuesday for local officers on a charge of defrauding a local hotel. It is alleged that Smith jumped a board and room bill at the Wright House. Oscar Vibber, chief of police, left Wednesday morning for Detroit to return Smith to this city.

## AUTOMOBILE LICENSES TO BE SOLD IN ALMA

Sharrar and Watson Appointed as the Manager of Gratiot County Branch.

The Secretary of State has appointed Sharrar & Watson of Alma, as managers of the Gratiot county branch office for the issuing of automobile licenses.

This branch will be able to issue automobile, truck, motorcycle, trailer and chauffeur's licenses to anyone in Michigan, outside of Wayne county. Application blanks for all of these licenses, together with full instructions relative to the weight and horsepower of all makes of automobiles and trucks, will be kept at the local branch office here, so that those who secure their licenses in Alma will not be subjected to the delays that have been frequent in past years in sending to Lansing for them, when errors have been made relative to horsepower, weight, the amount of money due the state, etc.

Those seeking licenses should appear in person at the Alm office, with information relative to the year in which the automobile was made, the car number, and the engine number. The blanks will be filled in by a notary public at the office and the blanks issued at once.

The office in Alma will be opened for the issuing of licenses on Wednesday, December 1, 1920, at which time or any day thereafter licenses may be procured.

The opening of a branch license office in Gratiot county promises to meet with general favor with automobile and truck owners through the county, as many of them have experienced delays in past years in securing licenses, that have in some cases proven troublesome to say the least.

The new 1921 licenses have a black background, with white figures and are probably the neatest that the state has ever had.

## MISS ROEBER DEAD

Former Manitowoc, Wis., Woman Died at Home of Sister in Alma.

Miss Emma L. Roeber passed away on Tuesday morning of this week at the home of her sister, Mrs. Caris Brown, 314 Gratiot avenue, after an illness of several weeks caused by heart trouble. Short funeral services were held at the house Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. J. Frank Jackson officiating, and the remains accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Brown, were taken to Manitowoc, Thursday morning for burial.

The deceased was born in Manitowoc where she lived until four years ago. At that time she was obliged to undergo a serious operation and went to the Mayo Brothers' Hospital in Rochester, Minn., for that purpose, then coming to Alma to make her home with her sister, where she resided until the time of her death.

Miss Roeber was a woman of high moral standard, and was greatly respected by all with whom she came in contact. She leaves two brothers, William, of Milwaukee, Wis., Chas., of Charlevoix, Mich., and one sister, Mrs. Caris Brown, of this city, to mourn their loss.

## LONG SCHEDULE IS GIVEN COLLEGIANS

Basket Ball Card Calls for 22 Games With Teams of Three States.

The Alma College basket ball schedule for the winter sport is the longest and the hardest that has ever been given a Maroon and Cream bunch of eagles, calling as it does for 22 battles with teams of three states.

The efforts of the management of the athletic association of the college to line up a strong schedule should be appreciated by local people, and the sport should be given better support than ever, in view of the good frays that are listed for the Alma court.

This season will be the first one in the history of basket ball at the college, when teams from other states have been met. Toledo University is to be played at Toledo. Defiance College, Ohio, and Bethany College of West Virginia, will both be seen in action on the Alma floor. Both will have exceptionally strong aggregations this year.

Coach Steele's hopefuls have been working out to some extent during the past few weeks in the college gymnasium and immediately after the Thanksgiving Holiday, real practice will be started in the high school gym, which will be available three times each week for the collegians.

Steele has some fine material, it is believed, among the new men. Among the men, who are expected to show real class as basket ball players are Kiker of Detroit Northern High, a forward of exceptional ability, who was named on the All Detroit team last year; Cathcart of Cass City, a forward, whose team won several class B high school tournaments last year; McNaughton of Crosswell, a center of good ability from a fast aggregation; Handley of Alma, and Brewer of St. Louis.

Of the old men, Howe, is the only one that Alma is certain will be available for the court five, but hopes are being held that Anderson and Tebo, the former an All M. I. A. A. center, and the latter an All M. I. A. A. guard; and Richards, a forward, will find it possible to again fight for the Maroon and Cream.

The card of 22 games calls for eleven M. I. A. A. titles, Adrian having failed to accept a date with Alma here, leaving the Presbyterians one short of the number of M. I. A. A. games that should be played. Two games are to be played with the Mt. Pleasant Normals, but they have not yet been settled. One game will be played in Flint with St. Paul's club, before the holidays.

January 7—Grand Rapids Junior College at Grand Rapids.

January 8—Calvin College at Grand Rapids.

January 14—Olivet College at Alma.

January 15—Open.

January 21—Hillsdale College at Alma.

January 22—Open.

January 26—Defiance, Ohio, College at Alma.

January 28—Albion College at Alma.

January 29—Open.

February 4—Toledo University at Toledo.

February 5—Detroit College of Law at Detroit.

February 11—Olivet at Olivet.

February 12—Kalamazoo at Kalamazoo.

February 18—Adrian College at Adrian.

February 19—Albion College at Albion.

February 25—Kalamazoo College at Alma.

February 26—Michigan State Normal at Alma.

March 1—Hillsdale College at Hillsdale.

March 5—Michigan State Normal at Ypsilanti.

March 9—Bethany College (W. Va.) at Alma.

March 11—Hope College at Holland.

March 12—Grand Rapids Y. at Grand Rapids.

## DECEMBER 5 IS CIVIC SUNDAY

Community Uplift and Co-operation Will Be Urged at That Time.

## SPECIAL MEETING IN EVENING

Union Rally of All Churches of the Entire City Will Be Held.

Sunday, December 5, will be Civic Sunday in Alma, at which time all pastors of the city will urge co-operation for the civic betterment of the community, a co-operation, which will find its best expression through the channel that will be provided by the Alma Chamber of Commerce, which is now in the process of reorganization into a body which should be a very vital factor in the community in the future, as it will not only have the securing of new industries for the city, but the betterment of, and the beautifying of the city, making it a more desirable place in which to live.

This much was decided at a meeting of the pastors of the city, held at the Chamber of Commerce room on Tuesday afternoon, which was attended by a majority of the clergymen of the city.

The morning service on December 5, will be used for a two fold purpose, perhaps, but beneath the seeming two fold proposition will be the one big underlying factor of a better world. One part of the morning service here will be given over to the Near East Relief which is a cause highly commendable, and a duty that every man owes to his brethren. Following the appeal for the Near East Relief will come a short sermon regarding civic conditions in Alma, which, with each pastor using his ideas in regard to what Alma needs, promises to bring forth material that will cause considerable thought, not only for the people of Alma, but for the chamber of commerce as well.

Arrangements are now being made for a big union rally of the churches of the city, to be held in the evening of December 5. Efforts are being made at the present time to secure a speaker of note from outside, and it is certain that this meeting will be a valuable one for the city. It has not been decided as yet where the union rally will be held, because of efforts that are being made in several quarters to provide a place that will give the largest possible seating capacity, as it is the intention to secure as many chairs as possible for use in addition to the regular seating capacity of the auditorium that is used.

Full details of the Union meeting will be given in next week's Record.

## TROUBLESOME PRACTICE

Habit of Shooting Insulators May Prove Dangerous.

At first glance it would not occur to one that the opening of the hunting season would have anything to do with your electric light service, but such is the case. At this time of the year one of the troubles of the Power company reaches its maximum. The porcelain insulators which support the transmission lines seem to offer an irresistible target for anyone carrying a gun. The small boy and convenient stones make the trouble continuous the year round for the Power Company, but the hunting season always brings matters to a climax.

Very little of this destruction of property is malicious. The perpetrators simply do not realize that they are doing serious damage. To replace a single insulator costs about five dollars, and causes an interruption in the service, and consequently a temporary shutdown of all the industries dependent on electric power. In one case just the other day near Mt. Pleasant the marksman was especially good and he not only destroyed a large number of insulators but actually shot down one of the live wires. The wire became entangled in a fence in such a way that the power was being carried through the fence, and the trouble was not noticed at once. One farmer, who later touched the fence, does not realize how close the bullet from the gun of that unthinking hunter came to costing him his life.

In view of the impossibility of policing 75 miles of line to prevent such vandalism the Power Company would appreciate anything that anyone can do to inform possible offenders concerning the seriousness of this matter. It is not a matter of threats and rewards; it is simply a matter of letting people know the extent of the damage they unthinkingly do.

## ATTENTION ODD FELLOWS

A competitive rabbit hunt between Alma and St. Louis Odd Fellow Lodges will take place Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 27-28.

All members are requested to take part.

Rabbits to be dressed and turned in to Ray Rogers, 123 West Superior St. Phone No. 173, by 8:30 a. m. Monday, Nov. 29.

F. L. Delavan, Noble Grand.